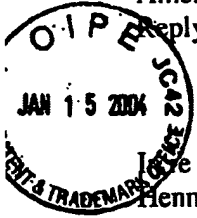


Application No. 09/831,223

Amendment dated January 12, 2004

Reply to Office Action dated September 10, 2003



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventive Application of )

Henning Zschau )

Group: 2832

Serial No.: 09/831,223 )

Filed: July 19, 2001 )

Examiner: Donovan, Lincoln D.

Title: RELAY WITH COUPLING )  
ELEMENT )

**AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed September 10, 2003 with a period for response that has been extended by one month by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time. Reconsideration of the application identified above is requested. Please amend the present application as set forth below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

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